GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS

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Luis Marden

BUENOS AIRES IS THE LARGEST SPANISH-SPEAKING CITY IN THE WORLD

The subway exit (above) is labeled *Salida* in Argentina's Spanish-speaking capital city, whose 2,365,000 people make it the third-largest city of the Americas and the largest of the Spanish-speaking world. The metropolitan area holds more than three million people. One of the busiest seaports of the Western Hemisphere, it stands 170 miles inland on the Río de la Plata—not a river at all, but the broad, gulflike estuary of the Paraná and Uruguay Rivers. First founded in 1536, but of recent growth, Buenos Aires has five subways, the newest equipped with escalators. The car (right) bound for Plaza Italia is a reminder that Italians were second in number only to Spaniards in settling Argentina (Bulletin No. 2).

HOW TEACHERS MAY OBTAIN THE BULLETINS

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Half-Desert, Half-Fertile Tunisia an Ancient Battlefield

TUNISIA, where British and American forces finally came to grips with Nazi African troops, lies between French Algeria on the west and Italian Libia on the southeast, about halfway along the Mediterranean between Gibraltar and Egypt.

Peopled by Phoenicians even before Queen Dido founded Carthage, Tunisia was the battleground on which the Roman Empire triumphed over the Carthaginians after 120 years of struggle. Then Vandals smashed the Roman rule, Byzantine Christians contended with Vandals, and finally Arab invasions brought 1,200 years of Moslem supremacy.

Governed as a protectorate of France since 1881, Tunisia has been ruled nominally by beys of the royal family that began its reign in 1705. Most of its 2,600,000 people crowd the towns and rich plains along the coast. Moslem Arabs and Berbers are in the majority, with the French predominant (108,000) among the 213,000 Europeans, and the 94,000 Italians ranking next.

French Sentinel at Mediterranean Water Gate

Although not quite as large (48,300 square miles) as North Carolina, Tunisia has five strikingly different regions. They are the mountainous northwest, where the Atlas Mountains make their way to the sea; the narrow coastal shelf of the north; the broad, rich coastal plain of the east, between Sousse and Sfax; the high windswept central plateaus; and the desert of the south.

For its area, Tunisia has a long coastline. The Mediterranean laps its 150-mile north coast and some 600 miles of its eastern side.

Guarding the water gate between the Mediterranean's east and west basins, Tunisia dominates the Sicilian narrows. The naval base of Bizerte, Tunisian Gibraltar, and the capital city of Tunis, with some 219,000 people, both stand beside their spacious harbors at this Mediterranean bottleneck.

The mountains of Tunisia are the eastern end of the great Atlas system that curves around the northwest shoulder of Africa. The two ranges fray out northeastward into the Mediterranean at the two capes enclosing the Gulf of Tunis. The north range is fairly narrow. Its northward slopes are carpeted with the rich wheat fields that once made this area a granary for ancient Rome.

Army Could March Miles in Shade of Olive Trees

Between the two main ranges spreads the valley of the Medjerda, Tunisia's most important river, which rises in Algeria and flows into the Gulf of Tunis.

The southern range spreads out into an extensive plateau, where the highest mountains rise in the west near Algeria. Scattered peaks attain heights above 4,000 feet, and Djerba Chambi tops 5,000.

Tunisia's eastern coastal plain, bulging into the Mediterranean between the Gulf of Hammamet and the Gulf of Gabès, is known as the Sahel, a fertile green region of wheat fields, citrus groves, and olive groves. Its southern half is dominated by Sfax, Tunisia's second-largest city and second-busiest port, with 45,000 people. The chief port on the northern gulf is Sousse, with 28,000 people, an historic city of Phoenician origin nearly 30 centuries old. Across the Sahel between Sousse and Sfax stretch some of the Mediterranean region's finest olive groves, many of them extending for miles in unbroken ranks.

Inland from Sousse stands the all-Moslem city of Kairouan, now with few

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WHITE PEAKS, GREEN PASTURES, AND GOLDEN CROPS MAKE UP THE "SILVER LAND"

Río de la Plata, the "River of Silver," owes its name to silver which explorers hoped to find at the source of the broad stream's muddy flood. For the same reason the country was christened with a Latin name for silver.

Tapering Argentina is a third longer (2300 miles) north to south than the United States (1600 miles), less than a third as wide (800 miles), and a tenth as populous. It resembles a slice of the U. S. carved between the crest of the Rocky Mountains and the Mississippi valley — high sierra sloping down to grass prairies and wheat lands. In the Andes, Argentina has the highest peak outside Asia—Mount Aconcagua (23,081 feet) and others loftier than North America's Mount McKinley. The mountains make La Quiaca—the country's northernmost town, actually in the tropics—nearly as cold in June winters (37 degrees) as the southernmost: Ushuaia, in Tierra del Fuego on the track of Antarctic storms. The latter is the farthest-south permanent settlement in the world.

The finger of land reaching northeast of Posadas is the subtropical province of Misiones, noted for orange groves and plantations of yerba maté trees. Patagonia, the one-fourth of Argentina south of the Colorado, is a series of gusty, snow-peaked plateaus terraced down from the west, where scattered grazing sheep far outnumber the human population. The pampa lands, where the centaur-like gauchos (cowboys) once threw their boleadoras at wild ostriches, now produce enough wheat and cattle to make Argentina one of the great grain and beef exporters of the world. Settled as a vestibule to wealthy mining areas in the Andes, Argentina has its oldest and many of its largest cities well to the west.

Córdoba (272,900 people), the third largest city, was founded in 1573 and had its own university by 1613. Tucumán (146,600), fourth city in size and center of the sugar region, began its growth in 1565. Mendoza (110,200), the sixth largest, was founded in 1559 and named for the colonial governor of what is now Chile.

Smaller Santiago del Estero is possibly the oldest settlement in Argentina, since it survived a massacre in 1561 that wiped out other settlements.

Buenos Aires, now the capital, was first settled in 1536, after Pedro de Mendoza arrived with his Spanish pioneers. But hope of a richer and safer site lured the settlers farther inland, and the port was not occupied permanently until later in the 16th century.

Like the entire Argentine nation, Buenos Aires has seen a remarkable growth within the past 60 years. In 1880 its population was a mere 300,000. Now the city, thoroughly modernized, is more than five times greater than Rosario, the country's second largest (Bulletin No. 2).

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Argentina, Land of Peak and Pampa

(This is the second of a series of bulletins, each with a map and illustrations, on the countries of Latin America.)

ARGENTINA is more like the United States, in certain geographic ways, than is any other South American nation. It lies almost wholly within the Temperate Zone, reaching south of the Equator from the 21st to the 55th parallels of latitude, as the United States extends north of the Equator between the 25th and 50th parallels. The South American republic thus has the same wide range of temperatures, reversed in direction, from tropic heat in the north to glaciers in the far south (map, inside cover).

The vast pampas of central Argentina, rolling up to the highest Andes as U. S. prairies rise toward Rocky Mountain foothills, are planted to many of the same crops—wheat, corn, alfalfa. The grasslands, as in the U. S., are also cattle lands, with many livestock by-products. It is this similarity of production that has created long-standing problems of commerce between the two countries.

History Resembles That of U. S. West

Argentina's early settlers, like those of the United States, pushed hostile Indian aborigines westward, placed emphasis first on livestock, then on farming, and now are turning toward industry.

But there are also striking contrasts between Argentina and the U. S. The southern nation is less than one-third (1,079,965 square miles) as large as the total area held by Uncle Sam. Although Argentina has an estimated 13,200,000 people, compared with more than 133,000,000 in the United States, its present population is almost ten times the 1869 figure. Also, except in the broad central area within several hundred miles of Buenos Aires, it is as yet comparatively undeveloped, particularly in the hot, moist Chaco regions of the north and the lonely windswept plateaus of Patagonia in the south.

It is a curious circumstance that in Argentina—traditionally the land of the open horizon, the bawling calf, and wind-stirred fields of grain—nearly half of the inhabitants live in cities of more than 100,000 people. The brilliant, cosmopolitan capital, Buenos Aires, outlet for the central pampa area, is the largest city of the Southern Hemisphere (illustration, cover). Busy Rosario to the northwest has more than a half-million inhabitants.

Four factors stand out in the story of Argentina: immigrants from Europe, railroads, imported and improved livestock, and refrigeration.

More than 95 per cent of the Argentines are of European stock, mostly Spanish and Italian, but with groups from the British Isles, Poland, Germany, and Russia. The Indians, decreasing in numbers, are estimated at no more than 30,000.

Refrigeration Revolutionized Trade

After 1880, the opening up of new lands brought Argentina's greatest wave of immigration. Many were seasonal workers, shifting between southern Europe and South America. Permanent settlers made their homes chiefly in the pampas, heart of the country and still source of most of its wealth (illustration, next page).

With the influx of people, railways opened up a productive new hinterland of vast grain and cattle ranches, again remindful of the U. S.'s westward expansion.

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more than 23,000 people, but once the African capital of Mohammedanism, strictly closed to unbelievers. It was founded in 670 A.D. Visitors throng to its Great Mosque and to the Mosque of the Barber, where one of Mohammed's disciples lies buried with three hairs from the beard of the Prophet.

Farther south stands the oasis port of Gabès, in extensive groves of date palms. From Gabès south, Tunisia is a land of low sandy desert, with occasional oases. From Gabès west stretches a chain of undrained seasonal salt lakes known as chotts, of which the largest is Chott Djerid.

All of Tunisia's numerous railways are found in the northern half of the country. From Algeria two of these lines lead to Bizerte and to Tunis. The main coastal line extends from Tabarka, near Algeria, to Gabès. Spur lines reach inland to the mineral resources of the western mountains, to bring phosphates and lead and zinc ores to the ports.

Note: For further information on Tunisia see these articles in the *National Geographic Magazine:* "Time's Footprints in Tunisian Sands," March, 1937*; and "Ancient Carthage in the Light of Modern Excavation," April, 1924; and the following GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS: "U. S. Troops Open New Front in French North Africa," November 23, 1942; "France's North Africa Colonies Hold Vital Food and Minerals," April 7, 1941; and "Tunis Again Makes African Trouble for France," May 2, 1938. *(Issues marked by an asterisk are included in the special list of Magazines available to teachers at 10¢ each in groups of ten.)*

Bulletin No. 1, December 7, 1942.

Maynard Owen Williams

THE DESERT DAIRY CHURNS SHEEP'S MILK IN A GOAT'S SKIN

True desert nomads are not numerous, for pasturage on the Sahara's steppe fringes is too thin for many camels, sheep and goats. After rare rains, the desert blossoms with patches of plantains and purple-flowering stalks. Usually, however, there are only clumps of thistly shrubs yards apart. This tribe has wandered northward toward Tunis from Tunisia's desert south seeking more pasturage. The goatskin, durable "water jug" of the desert, is here jerked back and forth to churn sheep's milk into butter.

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Sardines, a Favorite Meat Substitute from West Coast Waters

IF MEATS must be rationed, why not fill in with fish?

Housewives may be willing, but fishing vessels and fishermen are being assigned to other duties. The humble sardine—the fish that America's commuters are accustomed to being packed in like—is named among seafoods that will be scarcer in coming months.

What is a sardine? Why is a sardine? When is a sardine not a sardine?

Sardine Is Young Pilchard Named for Sardinia

Many varieties of fry, including undersized herring and menhaden, have been tinned in vegetable oil and sold as sardines. The true sardine, however, is not the dwarf fish it appears to be, but is the young of the pilchard.

The pilchard, a member of the great herring family, is plentiful in the waters off Europe's coasts from the English Channel around the Iberian Peninsula to Sardinia, and it is from this Mediterranean island that the sardine received its name. The sardine canning industry of France's Brittany peninsula is nearly a century old. The excellent reputation of the Brittany product is due in part to the freshly pressed olive oil, produced in the region, in which Brittany sardines are canned.

In American waters the pilchard ranges in abundant quantities off the Pacific shore of the United States, from Canada's Queen Charlotte Islands to the Gulf of California, which slices into Mexico's northwestern coast. While Oregon and Washington fishermen know it as the pilchard, to Californians it is known almost exclusively as the California sardine.

Large commercial quantities are landed at California's coast cities—Monterey, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and San Diego—in the main season, which lasts from August through February (illustration, next page).

America's Number One Commercial Fish

For many years the West Coast pilchard catch has averaged over a billion pounds annually, and has been the greatest catch by weight of all North America's commercial fishes. The 1941-42 season produced nearly a billion and a quarter pounds.

The canning industry normally runs to three million cases a year, taking only a tiny fraction of the catch. The pilchard's "volume job" is to be pressed for oil, and then to be dried and sacked as fish meal, used as chicken feed and fertilizer.

Pilchards swim close to the ocean surface in vast schools. Fishermen encircle them with purse seines a quarter of a mile long and one hundred and twenty feet deep. As the seine is drawn around, it is pulled into saucer shape by drawstrings at the bottom. Single catches by this method have run as high as 200,000 pounds. An average haul weighs one-third of this maximum.

The adult pilchard of the Pacific coast reaches a maximum length of fourteen inches. It is a slender fish, with dark green on its back, shading to bright silver on its sides and underneath. Its luminous gleam betrays the location of schools to vessels fishing at night.

The fish lives on tiny green water plants and organisms, and in turn is an easy prey for larger denizens of the sea.

The prospect of a smaller pilchard catch and increased government require-

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Argentina has 26,100 miles of rail, more than any other Latin American country.

The coming of refrigeration revolutionized Argentina's export business (once chiefly in hides and dried and salted meat), and laid the foundation for its leading industry, meat packing. In 1940, more than 273,000 metric tons of chilled and frozen beef and nearly 62,000 tons of mutton were exported.

Other leading industries include flour milling, sugar refining, wine making, and linseed production from the great central flax belt. There are textile mills, dairies, shoe and tanning factories. An Argentine specialty is the tanning extract made from quebracho logs, a wood so hard that its very name means ax-breaker.

Argentina normally looks to Europe for most of its foreign trade. Great Britain is by far the leading purchaser of Argentine goods, followed by the U. S., and, in peacetime, Germany, Belgium, and the Netherlands.

Note: Argentina is shown on the National Geographic Society's Map of South America. For additional material on Argentina see the following articles in the *National Geographic Magazine*: "Buenos Aires: Queen of the River of Silver," November, 1939*; and "Life on the Argentine Pampa," October, 1933; and these GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS: "La Plata River," February 3, 1941; "Misiones Territory," November 4, 1940; and "U. S. Talks Trade with Customer-Competitor, Argentina," November 13, 1939.

Bulletin No. 2, December 7, 1942.

H. G. Olds

MATÉ STARTS THE MORNING ON AN ESTANCIA OF THE PAMPA

Like coffee in Brazil, yerba maté is the national drink in Argentina, where the gaucho has a stirrup cup before riding off to herd cattle on the *estancia* (ranch). Poured steaming from the iron tea kettle his wife holds, it is served in a small decorated gourd, from which he sips it through a silver tube. Since trees are practically unknown on the level pampa, some shade trees have been planted around the gaucho's simple quarters (background) as well as the owner's fine home. At one time trees were imported to Argentina in considerable quantities. Symbol of Argentina's pioneer days was the hard-riding, meat-eating gaucho who roamed the pampas and lived by the knife and rope. But today's gaucho is settled on the *estancia*, and any visitor who expects to find him in Argentine cities is as misled as if he looked for Indian tepees in Chicago.

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Exploring French North Africa's Desert Reaches

SOME of the American troops trained in deserts of the United States are now applying their desert lore to French North Africa. Many an American soldier is staring at *ergs, chotts,* and *wadis* of the Sahara, and wondering how much the censor will let him write home about them.

French North Africa contains a slice of the world's largest desert basin, the Sahara, which is rimmed on the north by the Atlas Mountains. This is white man's desert, peopled by eagle-nosed Arabs and curly-haired Berbers, grassless shepherds or sand-farmers who reckon their wealth by trees. Railroad bridges, air-conditioned busses, filling stations, and the marble columns of abandoned Roman baths are all more common there than a rainy day.

Erg, Meaning Dune, Is Sandy Rather Than Rocky Desert

Morocco sees snow-nourished rivers like the Ziz (illustration, next page) rush down the mountains' southeast slopes and vanish into sand. Tunisia has hot desert springs, where live small boneless, eyeless fish, beside Chott Djerid, one of the desert's largest and saltiest lakes. Algeria's desert expanse sweeps southward from the Atlas heights through pathless *erg* to the Ahaggar's 9,840-foot peak.

The typical desert is a vast dry rock basin—or a series of basins, like the Sahara—rimmed by mountains that halt any rain clouds coming in and block any drainage going out. Rain arrives only with rare, torrential thundershowers. Winds scour the rocky highlands bare of vegetation and sweep the sand grains of crumbling rock down the desert basin's slopes. On the lower stretches, sand surges with the wind in restless dunes. The infrequent cloudbursts splash sheets of rain down the basin's rocky sides; sinking into the sand, the water settles to the basin's central sink, usually as a stagnant salt lake without exit. While day temperatures may go as high as 138 degrees Fahrenheit, nights may be freezing.

What is an erg?

Such terms as El Erg and Erg Chech dot the map of Algeria's desert section. Arabic for "dune," *erg* has come to mean the endless rolling waves of sand which to many people are the symbol of desert geography. Because the fine sand particles hold the heat, *erg* regions may be the hottest part of the desert; the Sahara's 138 degrees was registered among dunes. Generally speaking, the *erg* develops in a desert's lower reaches, beneath the high *hamada's* cliffs and around the central salt lake. As the lake water evaporates, the *erg* encroaches on its shoreline. This is camel country, for which the camel has developed fleshy pads on his feet to spread on shifting sand, and nostrils to close against swirling dust. But man too makes his home there, as at El Suf in Algeria. Digging cone-shaped holes in the sand, the *erg*-dwellers of El Suf plant date palms that reach down to subterranean waters. They count their riches by the trees they own, valuing each tree by the labor required to keep it watered rather than by its yield of dates.

What is a hamada?

The barren plateau of desert highlands, its rock floor swept bare by the wind, is known as *hamada*. Wind and sun combine to give the *hamada* a gleaming crust that looks like a varnished surface, usually brown, with a reddish tone due to particles of iron rust in the rock. The southeastern slopes of the Atlas Mountains, well watered and forested along their heights, are baked and burnt *hamada* as they

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ments, for feeding the Army and the Navy, are not the only threats to the grocers' supply of sardines in the coming months. Recent increase in the demand for fish meal and oil has raised the price of these commercial products enough to cause processors to press and dry a larger portion of the pilchard catch.

COLOR PLATES OF FISHES NOW AVAILABLE

Separate color pictures of fishes (including a painting of sardines) from the *National Geographic Magazine* may be obtained from the National Geographic Society for educational use. These 48 pictures are available for 30¢ a set. Or they may be included in a larger 50¢ packet of 96 color sheets which teachers may select from a wide range of subjects such as the Latin American nations, the United States, countries of Europe, Asia, and Africa, birds, dogs, and insects. A list of subjects and an order blank may be obtained from the Society's headquarters in Washington, D. C.

Bulletin No. 3, December 7, 1942.

Gabriel Moulin

IF YOU CATCH THEM YOUNG, THEY'RE SARDINES

If a sardine lives to grow up he is known as a pilchard. In fact, at any age, in Washington State, British Columbia, and England, he is called a pilchard. But off the California coast, when young enough to be 10 inches in length and a bit over 4 ounces in weight, he is known as a "California sardine." There they catch them young and can them, or reduce them to meal and oil. The men dumping the net of sardines into the floating hopper have only a quarter of a mile to go to the cannery on shore. Monterey, California, was the third-largest sardine port in the world, in terms of poundage—following Hull, England, and Stavanger, Norway. Sardines number among their varied cousins the anchovy, often seen curled up, like a small cinamon bun, on a bed of toast, and the tarpon, which may be 7 feet long and weigh 200 pounds.

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Geo-Graphic Brevities

CORSICA, NAPOLEON'S HOME, HAS NEW DICTATOR

THE birthplace of the "Little Corsican," Europe's military dictator of the late 18th century, has a new dictator now that the Germans have taken over Corsica, Napoleon's home island.

Previously belonging to Genoa, Corsica was ceded to France in 1768. During the Napoleonic Wars the English supported Paoli, a patriot long dedicated to obtaining independence for Corsica, and set up a British protectorate. The island finally became an integral part of France in 1815.

As part of the Roman Empire, in the early years of the Christian era, Corsica was a place of exile for political offenders, including the younger Seneca.

Fortified Corsica is a Mediterranean stepping stone from Genoa, Italy, to Bizerte, Tunisia, 270 miles to the south. Oval in shape, 3,367 miles in area and about one-third as large as Vermont, Corsica is about 50 miles from Italy, 105 miles from France. Italy's island of Sardinia is just 7 miles to the south.

A backbone of granite mountains, the highest 8,600 feet, divides the island. The western side slopes sharply to the sea, the eastern easing gently into coastal plains and malaria-haunted swamps. Bays indent the western shore.

Of the 16 commercial ports, Bastia, the biggest city, ranks first. Bastia and the ports of Ajaccio, Calvi, and Ile Rousse are linked with the interior by rail, and a line skirts the east coast. Highways are good. France had a torpedo station at Port Bonifacio and anchorage for naval vessels at Ajaccio.

Ajaccio, the capital city, still tells the world that it is the birthplace of Napoleon Bonaparte, makes a show place of the house in which he was born in 1769, smokes Petit Caporal cigarettes (Little Corporal), points with pride to the boulevard named for the local boy who made good in the big city of Paris.

Much of the island is heavily forested. To the old Greeks, Corsica was Kalliste, "the most beautiful." To many a tourist the sweet scent of the maquis shrub is its most memorable aspect. Corsica's three-ply climate offers something for every taste—a warm coastal belt like the Mediterranean coasts of Spain and Italy; a slightly cooler low-altitude mountain region; and an invigorating high altitude climate. Average rainfall at Ajaccio never exceeds 23 inches.

* * * * *

VEILS FOR MOSLEM WOMEN STILL IMPORTANT IN NORTH AFRICA

AMERICAN troops landing in French North Africa have been warned against flirting with Moslem women who hide their feminine charms behind veils. Many veiled women would resent any overt indication that a man even sees them.

The veil, to strict Moslem women, is a curtain of respectability screening her from the eyes of the world. She is never seen unveiled by any man except her husband and men of her immediate family. In some parts of the Moslem world the women are so completely veiled that only one eye is visible. In Tunis, not even one eye is left uncovered. The long black veil of the middle-class Tunisian woman covers the entire face and is lifted only slightly by the wearer so that she can see the ground a few steps ahead when she walks in the narrow crowded streets. The poorer women, sheeted and shrouded in white, are masked in a black veil that fits tightly over the face, with two small slits for eyes.

Algerian women sometimes enjoy more freedom. Their veils fit tightly over

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sink into the *erg* of the Sahara's lower depressions. Where rivers have carved ravines through the rock plateaus, there is some vegetation, and the wild baboons are found. Generations of desert-dwellers have sunk wells as deep as 180 feet into *hamada* to reach underground water channels, drawing the water up by rope and pulley in 10-gallon goatskins to water their date trees. A variation of burnished *hamada* is the *reg*, an expanse of broken rock, boulders, gravel, and pebbles.

What is a oued?

Desert-bound streams may remain rivers as long as they wind between *hamada* walls, but on reaching the *erg* and its steppelike fringes they trickle away and are absorbed or evaporate. Seasonal floods from melting snows or cloudbursts make them carve their beds farther into the desert. The seasonally empty bed of a desert river is a *oued*, or *wadi*. Railroads in Algeria cross empty *wadis* on bridges, with barely a trickle of water beneath; once in twenty years the river bed may become a torrent deep enough to swamp the train. The rains of French North Africa begin usually in December and stop in March. *Wadis* are real rivers in the spring. For the rest of the year, they are reduced by absorption and evaporation to muddy or empty beds. *Wadi* is the Arabic spelling; *oued* (pronounced like "wed") is the French.

What is a chott?

The salty, slowly evaporating desert lake is called *chott* in French, from the Arabic *shatt* (both pronounced like "shut"). It is sometimes Anglicized to shott. As it dries during the long periods of desert drought, the *chott* becomes a gleaming white expanse of salt, somewhat like the Bonneville Salt Flats of the United States. In French North Africa a chain of *chotts* stretches for some 250 miles or more from Gabès, in Tunisia. There the ancient Carthaginians used to hunt for their dwarf war elephants.

Bulletin No. 4, December 7, 1942.

V. C. Scott O'Connor

THE ZIZ FLOWS DOWN FROM THE MOUNTAINS INTO A SEA OF SAND

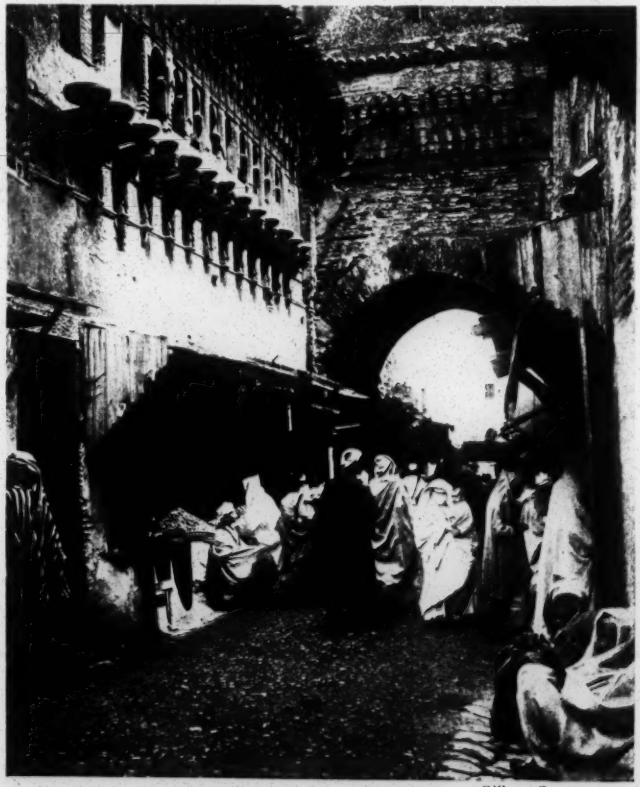
Rising in the snows of the Atlas Mountains in Morocco, the Ziz River winds down through rocky plateaus in the normal manner of any river flowing to the sea—until it reaches the Sahara. There it spreads out into small channels and disappears in the sand. Like all moisture in the desert, the river's water nourishes date palms, which form a sentinel line along its path (background). The vehicles fording the river are part of an official French expedition.

the bridge of the nose, and their head coverings pull down to shield their eyes.

In northern Africa the Moslem woman of the city is almost always veiled. The desert women go unveiled. In Turkey, where the veil now is banned, the situation was somewhat reversed. The city woman gave up the veil promptly, but more conservative villagers and women of the older generation still defiantly cling to the ancient custom. Use of the veil had its origin in pre-Moslem days when rough Bedouins from the desert roamed through cities under Arabian rule. Moslem men—a trifle on the jealous side, and anxious to preserve their womenfolk from bride-stealing—veiled them from roving eyes and insults.

The veil, however, has not always been a screen for feminine beauty alone. The Tuaregs of the Sahara in Africa, sometimes referred to as "the people of the veil," cover the faces of their men, but allow their women to go unveiled. To these men the veil is so important that it is never removed. The men of the upper class wear black veils while the men servants must wear white.

Bulletin No. 5, December 7, 1942.



Gilbert Grosvenor

FIND THE INVISIBLE WOMAN IN FEZ

Morocco's third-largest city, inland Fez (or Fés) is an old seat of the Sultan of Morocco and a stronghold of Moslem traditions. Women, even swathed in veils, rarely appear on the streets, and take the air on their Friday visits to the cemeteries. Men sheeted in their white burnooses are both keepers and customers of the market stalls. The lone woman in this crowded street, carrying her child, might be a walking heap of bedclothes except that she shows feet, one hand, and a twinkle of eyes through a narrow slit. Above the street on the left is a series of 13 gongs on brackets, installed nearly 600 years ago to tell the hours.

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